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Hamilton club soccer faces Syracuse this weekend, looking to expand on their winning streak. **page 14-15**

The Spectator

Thursday, Sept 29, 2022

Volume LXIV
Number IV

Publishing the Truth, From Good Motives and For Justifiable Ends

La Vanguardia and DMC celebrate "Unidos con Fuerza" for Latinx Heritage Month 2022

by Raymond Ni '24
STAFF WRITER AND SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

From Thursday, Sept. 15 to Saturday, Oct. 15, Hamilton joins the United States as it celebrates Latinx Heritage Month, also known as National Hispanic Heritage Month.

To celebrate this month, La Vanguardia (LV), a DMC-affiliated organization with a mission of supporting and amplifying the voices of Latinx students on campus, is partnering with various campus partners such as the DMC, Sadove, the Black Latinx Student Union (BLSU), the Feminists of Color Collective (FCC), the International Cultural Association (ICA) and the Gender and Sexuality Union (GSU) to celebrate "Unidos con Fuerza," an intentional effort to catalyze unity amidst ongoing tragedy and difficulty amidst various communities.

We interviewed La Vanguardia E-Board members Kathy Guerra '24 and Brandon Navarro '24 to ask them to explain the month, their thought process behind their planned events and the goals that they want to achieve during the month.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LA VANGUARDIA

Explain Latinx Heritage month to people that don't know about it. What do you want people to know about it? Navarro: "Latinx Heritage Month is a month dedicated to celebrating, uplifting and amplifying the voices of Latinx people. It is a month dedicated to us to celebrate our cultural background and traditions and a time for the Latinx community to come together and share our culture amongst ourselves. Latinx Heritage Month is from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 every year because several Latin American countries celebrate their independence days during that time."

What was your thought process behind the events you planned for the month? Navarro and Guerra: "We wanted to embrace different Latin American cultures throughout the month. It can be hard for Latinx students to adjust to being away from their families and home where they are able to experience a lot of their cultural practices or traditions. Through means of art, music and food, Latinx students can have that feeling of home. We also want people from outside the Latinx community to learn and experience what it means to be Latinx, so we also want to make sure that our events are open to people from the greater Hamilton community. We believe that by sharing our rich culture and background, we can work towards making Hamilton a more diverse and inclusive environment."

What would you like to achieve from the events and programming from this month? Guerra: "When planning our events, we wanted to focus on unity. A lot of tragic events continue to emerge in Latinx communities, but we have seen the rise of unity among our people. We chose to focus on the theme 'Unidos con Fuerza' meaning 'United with Strength' to value the effort to overcome difficulties that these groups encounter. We want to demonstrate that even through adversity, Latinx communities continue to celebrate the richness of our cultures and the grand diversity we have!"

LA VANGUARDIA CELEBRATES
"UNIDOS CON FUERZA"
16 SEP LATIN BALL HOSTED BY BLSU AND LV
29 SEP CULTURE SHOCK COLLAB WITH ICA
23 SEP CAFECITO CON LECHE WITH THE DMC
30 SEP DALI QUARTET WITH PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT
24 SEP MEET THE ALUMNI!! LV ALMUNI
05 OCT LATINX ARTIST ART WALK HOSTED WELLIN MUSEUM
24 SEP FABIOLA MENDEZ HOSTED BY FCC AND LV
07 OCT ANA MACHO HOSTED BY GSU AND LV
REALISMO MAGICO

PHOTO COURTESY OF LA VANGUARDIA

A poster advertising Latinx Heritage Month.

As for upcoming plans, on September 30th, LV plans on hosting Dalí Quartet in the Wellin Hall in collaboration with the Performing Arts Department, an event "acclaimed for bringing Latin American quarter repertoire to an equal standing alongside the Classical and Romantic Cannon" as LV describes it. This performance will feature Juan R. Ramírez's Latina for String Quartet, Alberto Ginastera's String Quartet No. 2 and Felix Mendelssohn's String Quartet No. 6.

Additionally, on October 5th, LV will be hosting the Latinx Artist Art Walk in collaboration with the Wellin Museum. Finally, to end the events of the month, a blacklight concert with Ana Macho will be hosted in collaboration with GSU on October 7th.

Students present summer science research

by Deanna Durben '25
NEWS EDITOR

Hamilton's Summer Science Collaborative Research Program held their annual Poster Session on Friday, Sept. 23, from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. in the Taylor Science Center. This year, there were 70 projects conducted with professors in the fields of Archaeology, Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Studies, Geosciences, Mathematics, Physics, Psychology and Neuroscience.

Students presented their research topics and findings to other students, community members and other parents' weekend visitors. The posters stayed on display throughout the Science Center all weekend, from the third floor to the ground floor.

Students conducting summer research typically stay on campus for eight to ten weeks, but the time frame depends on the goals of the project and the research supervisor's schedule. Students must attend a departmental information session and seek a faculty sponsor, then complete an application due in March. Interested students should contact their department's research coordinator, who is usually the department chair.

Writing an abstract, then creating and presenting a poster is required for each student receiving a Summer Science Research Fellowship. Poster presentations of this type are common at academic conferences, which students may even get the chance to present at.

There were six projects with 13 students in Archaeology. Two projects involved excavating artifacts at the Barnabas Pond House and the Reuben Long Homestead in Central New York.

The Biology department had 16 projects with 21 students. Topics included studying motor coordination in knockout mice, using eDNA water samples to classify aquatic organisms and reforestation techniques at Hamilton College.

The Chemistry department had 21 projects with 29 students. Topics included synthesizing chemicals such as melokhanine, norbornene-thiol and nor-TAT monomers and using metal-organic frameworks.

There were only two projects with six students in Computer Science, studying human-driven genetic programming and building and interpreting semantic networks.

Environmental Studies had five projects with six students, studying topics such as vegetation trends over Northeastern Siberia and effects of precipitation on soil moisture and microclimate.

The Geosciences department had five projects with 16 students. Topics included taphonomic trends and predation traces on fossils in gastropod assemblages from Florida springs and rivers and the interaction of surface and ground water in Clinton.

Three Mathematics projects with four students studied oriented stuck knots, edge determining sets and cryptographic methods applied to the boolean semigroup.

Physics research had five projects with nine students, studying fabricating molds for microfluidic devices, exoplanet detection, and the NIST solenoid.

Finally, the Psychology department had seven projects with eleven students. Topics included the effects of pretend play on the executive functioning skills of preschoolers, task complexity's effect on implicit and explicit motor learning and the relationship between moral character and blame.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Students, parents and faculty observe various research projects in the Science Center.

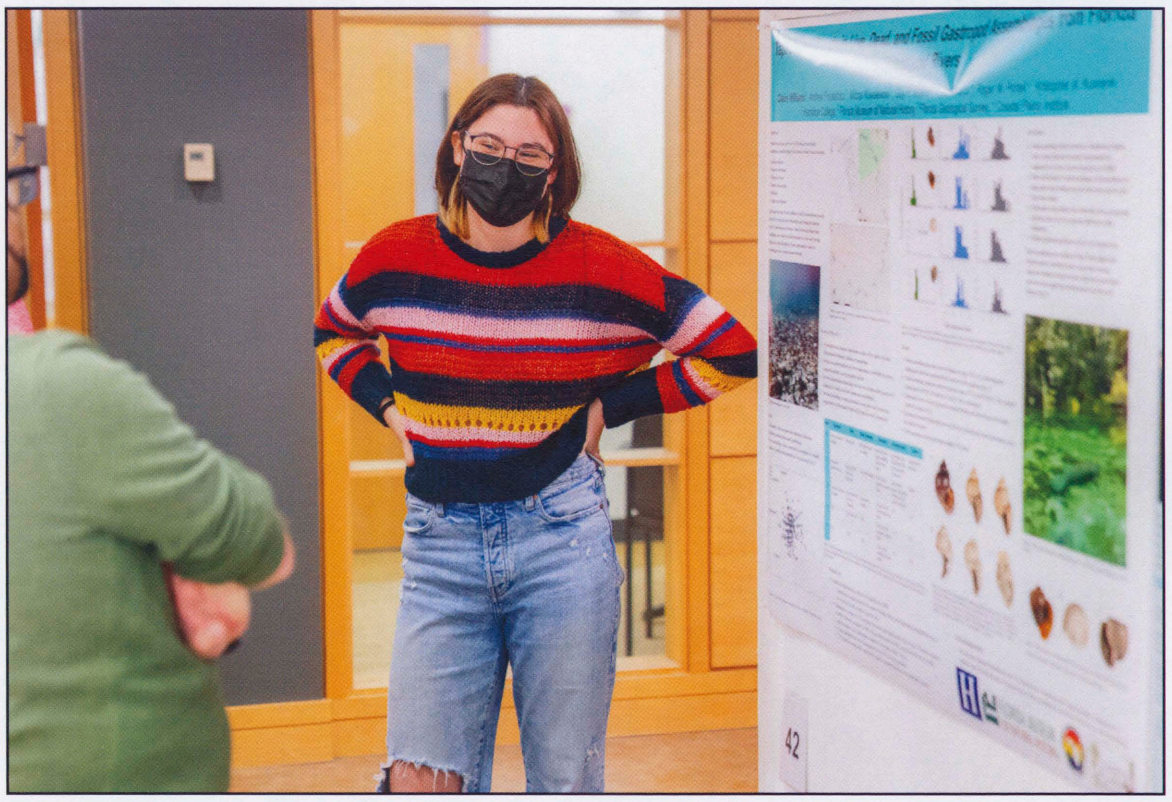

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Claire Williams '25 presents her Geoscience project sponsered by Professor Kusnerik.

Parents visit campus for Fallcoming weekend

by Anoushka Aswin '25
NEWS EDITOR

From Friday, Sept. 23 to Sunday, Sept. 25, Hamilton College hosted nearly 1,700 alumni, parents and friends for Family Weekend. This weekend, also known as Fallcoming, is celebrated every year with a variety of activities, including tours, concerts and student-sponsored events.

Fallcoming events included a football game against Amherst College, with HEAT and Hamilton's dance team performing during halftime. Other varsity sports games featured field hockey, women's tennis, volleyball, men's and women's rowing and men's and women's soccer. The Wellin Museum also celebrated its 10th anniversary with a panel of alumni and docent-led tours. Parents were able to better learn about their children's education in "Classes Across the College," which featured a faculty discussion about Hamilton's liberal arts curriculum.

Notably, President David Wippman gave a College Update speech, addressing concerns about COVID, speaking about Hamilton's application yield and new faculty that have come on board this year. He also emphasized the success of the "Because Hamilton" campaign, which has raised $366 million dollars out of a goal of $400 million dollars. Outside of school-related issues, President Wippman spoke about the current political environment and its polarizing effect on higher education.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Hamilton's football team rejoices amidst a successful 24-10 win against Amherst College.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Students show their families around the College's campus on Martin's way.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to respect discretion, *The Spectator* and Campus Safety have not disclosed the idenities of the students involved in these reports.

Thursday, Sept. 22

11:45 a.m. Assist — CJ

11:35 p.m. Medical Emergency — South Campus

Friday, Sept. 23

9:31 a.m. Assist — Commons Dining Facility

9:27 p.m. Motorist Assist — South Campus

10:17 p.m. Noise Complaint — South Campus

11:24 p.m. Complaint — South Campus

Saturday, Sept. 24

1:16 a.m. Disorderly Conduct — South Campus

11:06 a.m. Motorist Assist — Commons Dining Facility

10:53 p.m. Noise Complaint — South Campus

11:24 p.m. Noise Complaint — South Campus

Sunday, Sept. 25

9:29 a.m. Complaint — Dunham Residence Hall

1:40 p.m. Fire Alarm — Mcintosh Residence Hall

2:30 p.m. Medical Emergency — Kirkland Residence Hall

5:31 p.m Medical Emergency — North Campus

6:41 p.m. Trouble Alarm — South Campus

8:15 p.m. Animal Complaint — North Campus

9:47 p.m. Medical Emergency — South Campus

10:02 p.m. Animal Complaint — South Campus

Monday, Sept. 26

9:09 a.m. Trouble Alarm — Facilities Management

12:45 p.m. Animal Complaint — Green Apple Way

EDITORIAL

Dear Students of the Hamilton Community,

With midterms approaching, we wanted to wish everyone good luck on the work they have ahead. Be it an exam, a paper or a critique, we here at *The Spec* wish support to all the students who may be going through a more stressful time on campus. Even with midterms, this weekend marks the annual Fall Fest celebrations. With free Cider Mill refreshments and the "Off the Hill Challenge," enjoy Fall in Clinton while the weather still lasts. October break is only two weeks away, so this is the final stretch! If your stress levels are still feeling high, here are some upcoming events that may lend some ease:

Daily Scripture and Meditation, 8:30 a.m. daily in the Chapel.
Food Truck Pop-Up, 6:00 p.m. on Oct. 2nd by the Dunham parking lot.
Meditation Club, 4:00 p.m. on Oct. 3rd in the Chapel.
Vinyasa Flow Yoga, 12:00 p.m. on Oct. 4th and Oct. 6th in the Blood Fitness Center.
Recoup & Soup, 12:00 p.m. on Oct. 6th in the Chapel.

If all else fails, a weekly issue of *The Spec* can be found all over campus in popular study spots like Kirner-Johnson (KJ), Christian Johnson (CJ) and Taylor Science Center (SCCT) and where you eat in Commons, McEwen and Diner!

All the best,
The Spectator

Corrections & Amplifications

Readers can alert *The Spectator* to any errors in articles by emailing spec@hamilton.edu.

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Celebrating 175 years,
we *were first published as* The Radiator *in 1847.*

The Spectator

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The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national, and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college, and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

The Hamilton College Spectator, *publication number USPS 612-840, is published weekly by the Hamilton College Student Media Board while classes are in session. For more information e-mail spec@hamilton.edu. Our offices are located on the second floor of the Sadove Student Center. The deadline for advertisements is Monday the week of publication. For further information, please e-mail specads@hamilton.edu.*

Sept 29, 2022

How the new face of toxic masculinity found his way into the limelight

by Gregoire Winston '26
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

"I became the most Googled man on the planet, and to a degree I'm the victim of my own success," stated Andrew Tate during a new episode of his podcast 'TateSpeech.' Over the course of the 21st century, many celebrities have gained mass notoriety for their outlandish comments and outgoing personalities, including, among others, the Paul brothers, Gary Vaynerchuk and Charli D'Amelio and more. Yet no influencer in the last 6 months has received as much attention as one in particular: Andrew Tate, who has achieved fame by catering to an increasingly young audience on social media platforms such as Youtube, TikTok and Instagram. Standing as a supposed embodiment of the 'alpha male' and built upon ideals of misogyny, homophobia, racism and general abuse, 'Top G' is leading the charge for a new wave of hypermasculinity. With an ever-so-growing influence flooding young men's TikTok feeds at an alarming rate, Tate is changing people's perspectives for the worse, putting future generations of men in peril of succumbing to his backwards ideas.

Born Emory Andrew Tate in 1986 as the son of African-American chess grandmaster Emory Tate, the 35-year-old Internet celebrity has spent most his life focused on polishing his image into a prominent marketing business. As a young adult, Tate competed in kickboxing tournaments, quickly excelling at the sport. By 2014, Tate had clinched the title of kickboxing world champion in two different weight classes, putting him at the top of the hierarchy in international combat sports. Following his professional career, Tate hung up his gloves and ventured into the realm of reality television in 2016, joining British television series Big Brother in its 17th season. Yet, his appearance on the show was short-lived, as controversy surrounding him beating a woman with a belt resurfaced; this eventually lead to his ejection from the show six days after the opening episode, as reported by the BBC.

In parallel to his misogynistic actions, Tate established a definite presence on social media thanks to his provocative statements as global attention as his speeches intensified. For instance, in 2017, he stated that women deserve to "bear responsibility" for being victims of sexual assault, which promptly sparked outrage on Twitter over his beliefs, as reported by the *Washington Post*. The next day, Twitter banned his account due to a "violation of the company's policies on dangerous organizations and individuals," according to an official statement. Between 2018-2019, Tate proceeded to make multiple guest appearances on 'Infowars,' led by far-right radio host Alex Jones, along with building an expansive portfolio of connections among right-wing celebrities, as brought to light by *The Guardian*. Notable conspiracy theorists Paul Joseph Watson, Jack Posobiec and Mike Cernovic are among the many personalities with whom Tate has associated himself, spewing hateful and blatantly insubstantial ideologies across their respective social media platforms.

"Andrew Tate's presence on the social media feeds of teenage boys is antithetical and counterproductive to social progress and the third wave of feminism," remarked Meredith Brubaker '26.

While many would argue Tate has done enough to damage his reputation in the eyes of the world, his appeal to corrupt young men worldwide fueled the start of a new project: Hustlers University. Framed as an online platform dedicated to teaching men 'e-commerce, freelancing, cryptocurrency, investing, and business, as traditional schooling becomes less and less important,' Hustlers University is in reality a massive pyramid scheme. Indeed, by paying its members a fixed sum for bombarding social media sites with 'Tate-related content,' usually videos to garner significant attention, NBC News asserted that Andrew Tate and his army of followers manipulated Tiktok and Youtube algorithms to their advantage. Videos showing Tate giving his followers advice have become the norm on mainstream social media websites; one describes how to dominate women in the bedroom via the "slap, slap, grab, choke technique," and another features Tate claiming that 18-year-old girls are his target dating age due to their innocence and the ease in "leaving an imprint on them." In a world where surfing on Tiktok and Instagram is considered a conventional pastime for the majority of teenagers, openly hateful content can negatively skew perspectives of young adults at an early age, leading to a new generation of men glorifying sexual assault, human trafficking and other forms of abuse.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NPR

Andrew Tate made his name as a world chmpion kickboxer; now, after achieving viral fame, some of his opinions have come under scrutiny.

"I feel like Andrew Tate's rhetoric is going to have profound effects on impressionable minds of teenage boys on social media, and I've unfortunately already witnessed his impact on my fellow peers," commented Imani Mitchell '26.

Luckily, Tate's infamy is catching up to him, with Youtube, Facebook, Tiktok and Instagram all taking action to deplatform the influencer in August, 2022. Racking up over 4.7 million followers on Instagram, 750,000 subscribers on his Youtube channel and countless other fanbases pre-ban, society is slowly pushing back against the new face of toxic masculinity. Known for exhibiting an "extravagant lifestyle, dating life and expensive sports cars," as stated by *The Guardian* reporter Shanti Das, Romania's Playboy alpha male is feeling the heat from intense societal backlash. Protecting unsuspecting young men from the outdated mentality Andrew Tate preaches is the first step in leading future generations to healthy interpersonal outlooks for years to come.

Sept 29, 2022

What exactly is Ron DeSantis?

by Patrick Cleary '24
STAFF WRITER

Ladies and gentlemen, we have our October Surprise! Yes, the election year tradition of a sensational news story flooding the airways to distract voters has come early this cycle. Several weeks ago, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis flew several dozen Venezuelan migrants from San Antonio, Texas to Martha's Vineyard, a wealthy island vacation community in Massachusetts. The stunt was an attempt to criticize the supposedly left-leaning residents who were causing the 'border crisis' currently facing the southern United States. It should be mentioned that Florida is not a border state, and that DeSantis has essentially spent many millions of taxpayer dollars to use human beings as pawns. This is not an article about migrants, Martha's Vineyard or immigration; there probably is something to be said about wealthy liberals sheltering themselves into enclaves lacking in the diversity or class mobility they claim to espouse, but that is not my point. What does this maneuver say about our politics that the governor of the third-largest state in the Union has engaged in human trafficking for a campaign stunt? What kind of person does it take to actively sabotage another state in the name of political advancement? In other words, what is Ron DeSantis?

Ron DeSantis used to be a pretty standard Republican congressman. First elected in 2012, he later became known as a fierce defender of President Donald Trump. This secured him President Trump's support in his race for Florida Governor in 2018. That year DeSantis would be elected by a mere 30,000 votes, a .4% margin of victory. Most candidates who are elected by slim margins tend to be moderate once in office so as to not alienate the large population that just voted against them. Ron DeSantis however, is not most candidates.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NPR

Florida Governor Ron Desantis's decision to transfer migrants from his home state to Martha's Vineyard, MA has sparked controversy.

DeSantis's governorship is characterized by a confrontational style of populist, culture war politics that reverberates across the country. He has been ahead of the curve on his party's recent rightward shifts on the issues of public health, immigration, abortion, education, voting, tech, etc. DeSantis's refusal to impose COVID-19 restrictions even as his state became a virus hotspot empowered other red state governors to do the same, exacerbating the pandemic. DeSantis rode the wave of outrage at school board meetings to sign legislation which barred the discussion of LGBT themes in some public schools, followed by similar legislation in other red states.

That is a common theme for DeSantis: the embrace of culture war politics on a national stage. Rarely will he make an announcement on issues solely facing Florida. Rather, he will take a stance, get a bill rubber-stamped by the gerrymandered legislature and use his star power to get similar legislation passed in other states. This not only allows him to stay in the national spotlight, but also allows the kind of soft power few figures outside congressional leadership and former presidents have to coalesce.

After the Florida Legislature passed sweeping election laws restricting the usage of mail-in ballots, DeSantis conducted only one media interview to broadcast the signing, with the sympathetic 'wFox & Friends.' Here again, even in his position as a state figure, DeSantis acts more like something of a national celebrity. Disallowing local journalists to cover an important matter so he can be

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE INDEPENDENT

Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and Former President Trump, allies in the past, may become opponents in the 2024 Presidential election.

thrown softball questions by a friendly media indicates the behavior into which the American right has devolved. A sphere of friendly media gives free exposure to right-wing figures who then inflame viewers with a new culture war, in which friendly media may farm more clicks and views. This policy is so effective that it even got conservatives to hate something as quintessentially American as Mickey Mouse.

After the Walt Disney Company (the second largest employer in the state) expressed their disapproval, DeSantis threatened to revoke Disney's special development district. He handed a loss to one of his state's largest employers, saddling them with more bureaucracy if they want to develop. However, it helps him secure support from a conservative movement that has been increasingly antagonistic with the Mouse. This raises a major question: what is his endgame?

In about a month, Ron DeSantis will be reelected Governor of Florida. All that exposure has allowed DeSantis to gather a 9-figure campaign war chest; his Democratic opponent representative Charlie Crist has a tenth of the cash on hand and none of the energetic fervor of DeSantis. But where does he go from there? The obvious answer is the presidency, but that would likely put the Floridian in conflict with one of his earliest supporters, former President Trump. Much of what DeSantis has done in terms of crafting 'us-v-them' culture war clashes is straight out of Trump's playbook. Whether he can square that circle and convert enough of the Trump faithful will ultimately decide what will likely be a brutal primary of many soundbites and little else.

You can hate DeSantis—I certainly do—but nobody becomes popular by accident. Something within our politics has changed. I would argue that most people do not have the stomach for the genuine daily goings-on of politics—just check CSPAN's declining ratings for proof—but what we *do* long for is conflict. Imagining yourself as a member of this army of followers fighting the wicked wrath of an invisible enemy is so much more fulfilling than getting off Twitter and helping real people in the real world. But if you do want to be a part of that invincible army, there is an election just around the corner.

Sept 29, 2022

Celebrating 10 years of the Wellin Museum

by Althea Hill '25
A&E CONTRIBUTER

The Wellin was abuzz with students and their families this past weekend celebrating the opening of the Museum's 10th-anniversary exhibit: "Dialogues Across Disciplines." This new collection features both contemporary and dated works of all kinds including 19th-century photography, ceramic vases, chromogenic prints, oil on canvas and various other offerings.

Student docent Olivia Davis '23 has worked at the on-campus museum for a few years now and noted, "The exhibition opening was a huge success at the Wellin. It was amazing to see the Hamilton community come out to support and celebrate the 10-year anniversary. I can't wait for more people to learn about the Wellin's vast collection."

And vast it is. At the forefront of the gallery is a long banner that stretches the length of the wall. Copied prints of a kitch American flag and patriotic showgirls provide the background for a young woman of color with her hand over her heart, holding a portrait of a Native American chief in her lap. The inkjet print on a cotton fabric panel is titled "Long May She Wave; Lady of Liberty" (Akea Brionne, 2022).

Laurie Simmons's 1949 "Walking Microphone with Skirt" sits along the back wall. This eerie black and white work depicts the head of a microphone on a doll's legs. In his description of the piece, Hamilton religious studies Professor S. Brent Rodgríguez-Plate wrote, "We humans fear many things, but we fear dolls in a unique way...Dolls look something like us, reflecting us in deeply uncanny ways, revealing that our fears are not out there but rather are somewhere within ourselves, chasing after the core of our identity." He relates other media to the art piece such as The Terminator, Ex Machina, Frankenstein's Monster and Chucky. Standing directly before the work, visitors may face their reflection shining behind the doll's legs, connecting back to Rodgíguez-Plate's concept that perhaps we are most scared of ourselves. Whether an intentional feature or not, standing before this piece makes for a worthwhile visit.

Additionally, for the first time ever The Wellin exhibit features a time-based art piece titled "I Was Here" (Jeffery Gibson 2018). This short synthesizes documentary and scripted elements into the compelling story of a trans woman named Macy going about her life on the Choctaw reservation in Mississippi. The piece begins with Macy in her home alone, displaying her identity through makeup and vibrant clothing and preparing to enter her community for the day. Visitors later feel the watchful eyes on her at the grocery store, the camera weaving down the aisles and capturing the judgment of onlookers. The final section of the short captures Macy immersing herself in nature. She walks through a forest toward a river, light catching through the trees and illuminating her in all her glory. She reaches the water and lowers herself in, completely at peace and one with the nature around her. It is essentially a baptism; when she emerges, she is truly herself. This film scratches the surface of the intersectionality between communities and claiming individuality, as well as balancing gender and cultural identities. It is approximately 8 minutes long. As the year goes on here at Hamilton, the exhibit will continue to evolve. Accompanying commentary will be adjusted and some pieces will be swapped out with other work from the same artist. Located just off College Hill Rd, across from KTSA, The Wellin is open Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. "Dialogues Across Disciplines" will be up through the duration of the academic year. Community members all are welcome to view this tremendous exhbit.

PHOTO COURTESY HAMILTON COLLEGE

Hamilton College is celebrating the 10-year anniversary of the Wellin Museum with a new exhibition.

The birth of a new era in television

by Maximo Bratter '25
A&E EDITOR

PHOTO BY ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA

HBO's The Sopranos won 21 Emmy Awards in its 6 seasons on air.

Streaming technology feels omnipotent in the modern era of media, but it is still relatively young. The internet birthed the ability for users to illegally upload clips of their favorite shows and movies on websites such as YouTube, created in 2005. This medium began as a novelty, but the potential to expand how an audience can view media was clearly there. When Netflix switched from being a DVD-rental service to an online-streaming website, it set off a chain reaction that led to the establishment of its competitors, including Hulu and Amazon Video. Still, streaming was disregarded as the immature sibling to juggernaut broadcasting networks, like HBO, AMC and NBC, among others. Creative minds hesitated in attaching themselves to these online platforms for reasons of pride, financial support and marketing concerns. Instead, creative liberty is what brought in the dawn of the streaming apocalypse that has decimated network television for years now.

There are two main forms of television output, long-form and short-form. Short-form television is associated with shows that often reach a broader audience by way of its rapid pacing that doesn't require prior episode viewings to comprehend. Series like *Friends* and *The Office* are audience-friendly, as are most sitcoms that dominate network television, because their dialogue and humor are often irreverent or particularly relevant to the episode at hand. In contrast, long-form shows (which are often double the length of short-form episodes) have the time to world-build and draw out storylines that do not need to be resolved instantly. HBO ushered in this style in the late-90s and early-21st-century with the production of hits like *The Sopranos*, *The Wire* and *Oz*. HBO was a premium cable network, which meant that consumers had to pay for its amenities, which is clearly a stark contrast from the accessibility of other broadcasting companies. This pay-wall also meant that content standards were less strict because their audience reach was considerably lower than free-to-watch television networks. This is what set the precedent for taboo topics to be explored in a similar format to how films handled them, which coincided with the growing interest of filmmakers to expand their stories through long-form television.

In 2013, Netflix became the first streaming service to have an originally-produced series win an Emmy. This was *House of Cards*, a show that opted for established figures in the film industry, rather than opting for television actors. David Fincher, director of *Fight Club* and *The Social Network*, spearheaded the show's creation and employed Kevin Spacey and Robin Wright, who are both acclaimed actors. Netflix proved that success could be attained in-house; and this was further emphasized by the praise given to their following original series that included *Bloodline* and *Narcos*. Netflix's competitors followed suit, albeit to a lesser degree of prosperity, but the impact was still felt across network television. As cable became increasingly expendable in the 2010s, networks had to respond by conforming to the times.

According to *The Seattle Times*, 418 of this year's Emmy nominations stem from streaming services. 174 of these nominations were produced by Disney and HBO and distributed throughout their streaming services, Disney+ and HBO Max respectively. Network television has had to compromise with this new era of quantitative output, where their audience desires an extensive viewing experience that can compensate for the money they pay in subscription fees. As the shows get longer, the budgets get higher, and the creative forces behind these series become their own entity. This freedom has been reflected in shows like HBO's *Euphoria* and *Succession*, Amazon's *Invincible*, as well as Netflix's *Stranger Things*. All of these examples are long-form shows that have cinematic budgets, casts and crews behind them and explore topics that would normally be forbidden on network television. A show like *Stranger Things* even blurs the lines of what is classified as television, as its most recent season consists of multiple episodes of feature-film length.

The hunger for more content has also spawned the popularity of limited-series, shows that often span a single season with a completed outline of episode quantity and story development. This relatively new streaming opportunity has enabled creators to indulge in their creativity, all while omitting the looming pressure of having the product be renewed for following seasons. HBO has been commanding this sector of television with their illustrious catalog that contains *True Detective* (an anthology), *Chernobyl* and *The Plot Against America*. The vastness of television's subsidiary configurations has become undefined. This indeterminate perception of the artform has elicited unparalleled artistic expression that will surely permeate pop-culture for years to come.

Sept 29, 2022

Podcast subject gets released to retrial

by Lily Rizzoli '24
A&E EDITOR

Podcasts have become one of the most popular ways to consume media. There's no shortage of podcast topics available at our fingertips: true crime, comedy, lifestyle and anything you can think of. One podcast in particular, *Serial* has caused endless waves in the podcast community and may now be given some credit for the release and subsequent retrial of convicted Adnan Syed.

Syed was convicted for the murder of his ex-girlfriend Hae Min Lee in 2000 after her body was found in a Baltimore park. The defense accused Syed of being a scorned lover, as Lee had ended their relationship for a new lover. Syed maintained his innocence throughout the trial but was convicted regardless. He was sentenced to life in prison at 18, and had spent almost 23 years incarcerated by the time the Baltimore Judge Melissa Phinn decided to vacate the conviction due to evidence that was neglected by the state that could have helped Syed's case. Syed's legal team had filed for a re-examination of his sentence. The case files were reviewed, and in them were found two handwritten notes that pointed to a new suspect. Adnan Syed was released to a cheering crowd on Sept. 20 to await a retrial.

Serial got involved with Syed's case long before the overturn of the conviction. The podcast is hosted by journalist Sarah Koenig who was contacted by a friend of Syed's, asking her to look into the case. Koenig got addicted to the case, and created the podcast *Serial* about the case. Unlike other true crime podcasts on the airwaves, focuses exclusively on just one case: the 1999 murder of student Hae Min Lee.

Listeners go along with Koenig as she sorts through all the court documents available, interviews friends and family of both parties, hears the story from Syed himself and unravels the secrets swept beneath the rug of the investigation. Koenig had many sources and stayed connected to Syed and spoke to him whilst he was incarcerated regularly. These conversations are each recorded and played on the podcast. Koenig also gains access to police interview tapes, which she discusses and breaks down on the air.

Each episode, usually ranging from 25 to 50 minutes, focuses on a new aspect of the case: the alibi, the relationship between Syed and Lee, the crime scene and even rumors circling the case. The format of the podcast proved fruitful, as it is referred to as the most successful podcast ever, *The New York Times* calling it "The most popular podcast in the history of the form." The podcast boasts an impressive 80 million downloads and 1.5 million listeners per episode. The show has even won multiple awards for its accomplishments, including the illusive Peabody Award. The podcast gained an unreal amount of attention, prompting a huge public discourse about the case.

The story never stops twisting. Things seem to finally make sense, and suddenly everything is turned upside down. Stories correspond, stories conflict and questions are raised. The trial is called into question again and again, but so is Syed's innocence. It never ends, the mysteries and horrors keep unfolding. The podcast and its host never directly state that Syed is innocent, but Koenig does assert that she feels there was simply never enough evidence to fairly convict Syed of the crime. The podcast is made up 12 episodes. On Sept. 20, 2022, the podcast released another episode, "Adnan is Out." Adnan Syed will be retried for the murder of his ex-girlfriend, Hae Min Lee, with new evidence. We can be sure that *Serial* will cover it all. You can listen to *Serial* wherever you get your podcasts.

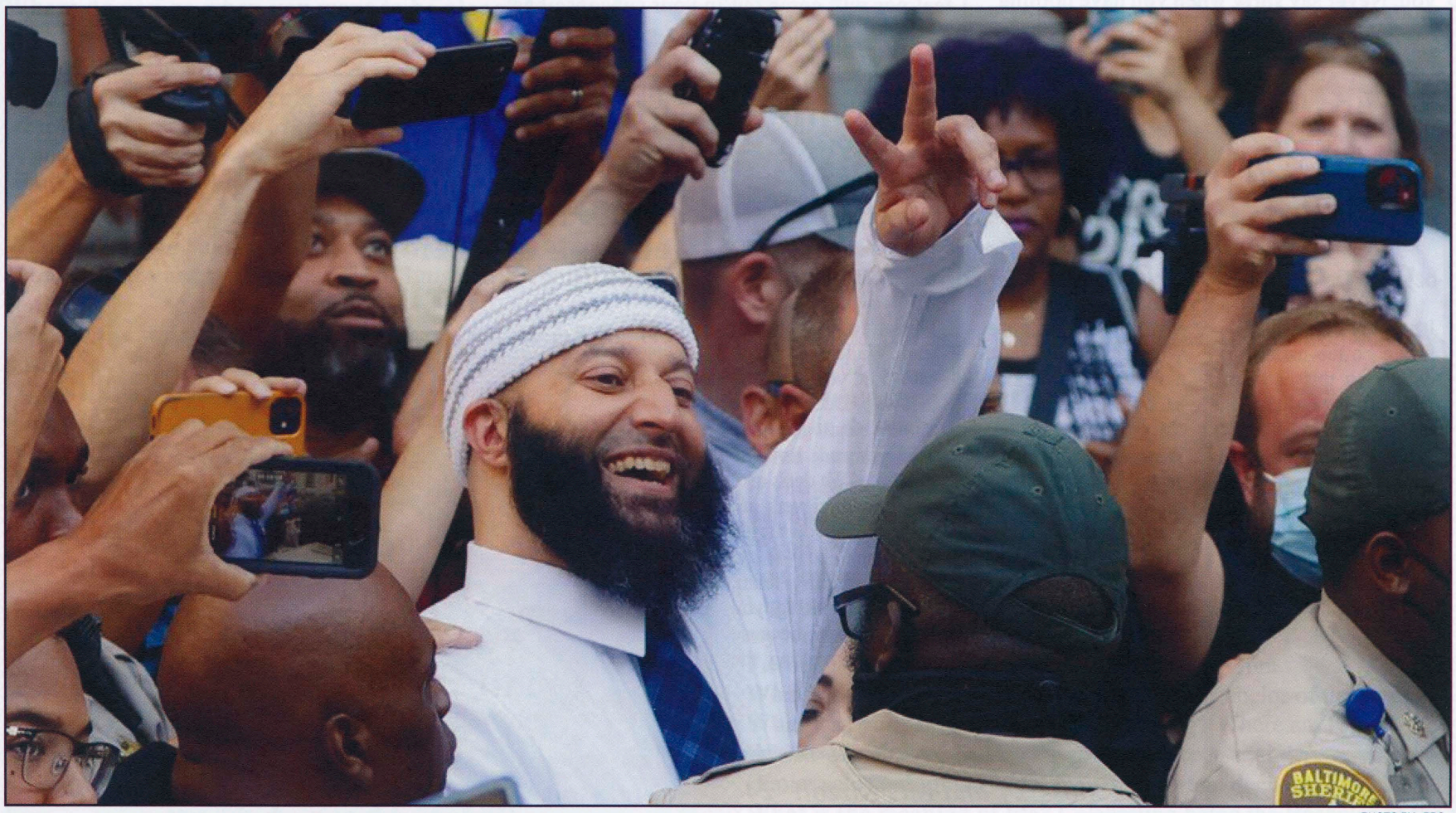


PHOTO BY BBC

Adnan Syed celebrates his release after alost 23 years in prison for the alleged murder of his ex-girlfriend when he was 17.

Sept 29, 2022

Hamilton Horoscopes: Sept. 29

by Mariam Saied '23
COLUMNIST

Aries

Usually the only person you truly listen to is yourself. People who love you may tell you things you don't want to hear, but take what they have to say seriously. At the end of the day, any decision you make is up to you, but try to be more open this week!

Taurus

The anxiety you're feeling right now is overwhelming and may be pushing you to make rash decisions. Act when you're ready. Sometimes it's better to do nothing at all than to let your brain trick you into moving forward when the timing isn't right. Future opportunities are plentiful!

Gemini

Your mind is constantly racing with countless different ideas. That's what we love about you. Watch out as negative thoughts try to take the driver's seat this week. These can shift your perception of yourself and those you love. You're a gem; remember that!

Cancer

"Sorry" is your favorite word. You might find yourself catching the heat for things that weren't your fault. If people come to you with ill intentions, trust your intuition and don't let them project their problems onto you. Never say sorry when you have nothing to be sorry for, bae.

Leo

Everyone is all over the place this week. When people are stressed, they can be messy. Don't take it too seriously. If people intentionally hurt you, your feelings of distress are incredibly valid. Just try to take a step in other people's shoes before reacting. Give people the patience you wish to receive.

Virgo

The past few weeks have been intense for you. You may feel burnt out and tempted to give up on things that once inspired and energized you. That's unlikely to make you happy in the end. This week will offer clarity through newfound stability. Look forward to good health, both mentally and physically.

Libra

You bring so much to the table, Libra! Take more control over your life. People around you may put on a facade of coolness and confidence that you envy. The people who make you feel small only do so if you let them. Take a chance on yourself and embrace what you have to offer.

Scorpio

If you don't already have one, get yourself a dream journal right now! This week you'll find yourself reflecting on parts of yourself that you may usually find yourself ignoring. You're very in tune with your emotions, but the deepest feelings will come out in your subconscious.

Sagittarius

Things are just working out for you right now. Take it in! Run with it! Don't waste your energy thinking about what worse times may be to come; the present is wonderful and you have to live in it. The bliss and spontaneity of it all look great on you.

Capricorn

As a mutable sign, you accept change with open arms. You have a lot of personal power this week. Step into it! It can be difficult to make the choices that feel right for you without overthinking how it fits in the grand scheme of things. Remember that nothing is written in stone. Make your own set of rules.

Aquarius

A lot of aspects of your life are shifting around right now, but you're finally starting to see where everything will lead. You're in your element. Nothing brings you joy like reflecting on your thoughts and beliefs and following your intuition in relation to them. Keep it going!

Pisces

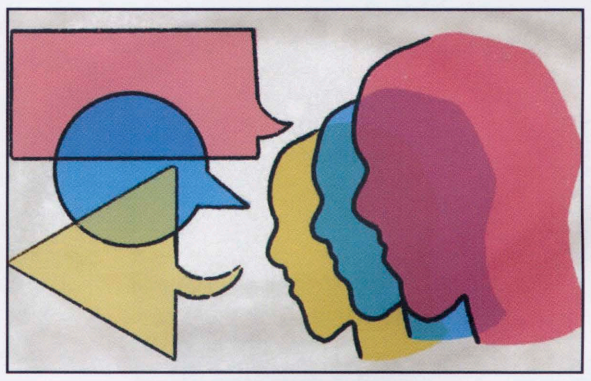
Love is in the air, Pisces. Trust your instincts and follow through with people and things that bring you joy. Nourish the relationships you already have and embrace new ones. If something feels off, trust your gut. Take off the rose colored glasses, and embrace healthy dynamics.

Thumbs Up	Thumbs Down	Who Cares?
Cheap Coffee	***Packed Rok***	***Fantasy Football***
It's nearly impossible to find a coffee under $5 dollars on this campus without it tasting like water. We want Opus vibes! Where's the on-campus dunks?? The Charli from dunks actually rips. Give me that instead. Now that's something I'd spend my five dollars on.	My santuary is gone! What happened to the senior safe haven, the kickback of all kickbacks, the object of my shavasana. Who let the freshmen get this bold? How'd you get it, did you give them your hillcard? Ordering a RBV? Not in these parts. Not happening. I haven't played darts in days. I forgot how to play pool. I haven't slept. It's the rok, not dons.	We don't care about your team. We definitely don't care that you're trying to swap Deebo for a top-tier running back, or trying to trade Rodgers for Hurts. We don't care that your recievers are nasty, or that you started 0-3 (soon to be 0-4) and are playing my team. Honestly speaking, you shouldn't care because you're not making the playoffs.

by Cole Kuczek '23, Eric Moss'24 and Lily Rizzoli '24

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

Strongly opinionated?
Disagree with someone?
Think a certain issue isn't getting enough attention?
Write about it!



Email spec@hamilton.edu for more information!

The Spectator

The Bachelors

Peter Huleatt '23

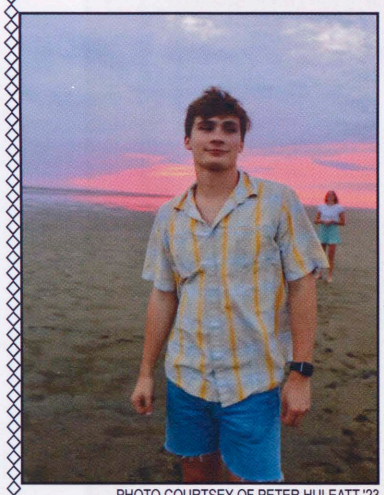


PHOTO COURTSEY OF PETER HULEATT '23

Name and year: Peter Huleatt '23
Pronouns: he/him
Hometown: Nazareth, PA
Home on Campus: Milbank.
Major: Public Policy.
Turn on? Clean.
Turn off? Dirty.
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? Glenview cuz hope fully I'll be gone soon.
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? Charli Charli XCX and Phoebe Bridgers.
What advertising slogan best describes your life? "The snack that smiles back (Goldfish)."
What TV genre best describes you? Gay TV show made for straight audiences.
What's your type? Typically men.
What are three things you cannot live without? Calendar, iPhone, and My Suite.
If you were any social space, what would it be? Opus, we romanticize.
Where do you go when you want to be alone? My single.
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? Varsity Men's Swimming.
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? Steal a brick from Martins Way.
What would you give a thumbs up? Jorts on men.
What would you give a thumbs down? Jorts on women.
Who would you say is your campus crush? Juliet Davidson.
Who would you say is your faculty crush? Alan Cafruny.
What would your perfect date be? Sunset at Elephant's Graveyard.
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? Top Gun Poster.
Lights on or lights off? Mood lighting?
Favorite campus study spot? List.
What's the last lie you told? Omg no worries.
What was your first thought this morning? My calendar is f*cked.
What's the meaning of life? Create the most happiness possible.

Interested in being featured in next week's "Bachelors" section? Email featspec@hamilton.edu!

Georgia Davis '24

PHOTO COURTSEY OF GEORGIA DAVIS '24

Hometown: New York, NY
Home on campus: Dunham (for too long)
Major: History.
Turn on? Opening the door.
Turn off? Feet.
If you were a dorm, which would you be and why? Dunham, because I am loud and need attention.
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, who would you pick and why? Adam Levine and Taylor Swift, because I'm dramatic and arrogant.
What advertising slogan best describes your life? What's in your wallet?
What TV genre best describes you? Comedic tragedy.
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? I'm at hibachi right now thinking of you :) (used on me).
What's your type? A breathing man with a full head of hair (non-negotiable).
What are three things you cannot live enough? Food, water, and shelter.
If you were any social space, what would I be? Hibachi.
Where do you go when you want to be alone? Elaine Jia's room, or hibachi.
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? Diner staff.
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? Joyride a Campo car while blaring the siren.
What would you give a thumbs up? Bab pav.
What would you give a thumbs down? Bab pav.
Who would you say is your campus crush? Maurice Isserman (socialist).
Who would you say is your faculty crush? The Amazon delivery-men. All of them.
What would your perfect date be? Hibachi.
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? Dorito flavored Smartfood popcorn.
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? Making out at 12 North.
If you were a food, which would you be and why? French fries. You love me, but I'm bad for you.
Lights on or lights off? Lights off, because the Dunham lights hurt my head. Did I mention I live in Dunham?
Favorite campus study spot? Commons at 12-1pm.
What's the last lie you told? I'd love to be Bachelor of the week!
What was your first thought this morning? Where am I?
Which member of Disney royalty are you? Ariel, because Emma Hunter said so. Emma Hunter makes important decisions.
What is the meaning of life? Celebrating being the Bachelor of the week, and hibachi. Always hibachi.

FALL FEST

and

OFF-THE-HILL CHALLENGE

First 200 Hamilton College students to complete the scavenger hunt win a free T-shirt!

FREE Cider Mill Snacks!

Student Performances!

Fun Activities!

Saturday	**Clinton Village Green**
October 1	**12:00PM - 4:00PM**

The Jitney will run a continuous loop from Sadove to the Village Green

Sponsored by:

Hamilton College Student Activities

Sadove Programming

Clinton Chamber of Commerce

Sept 29, 2022

WHCL 88.7fm Fall 2022 Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
7am	*Mohawk Valley Memories* Fuller	*Mohawk Valley Memories* Fuller	*Mohawk Valley Memories* Fuller	*Mohawk Valley Memories* Fuller	*Mohawk Valley Memories* Fuller	*Ferg n' Friends* Fergusson	*Gilligan's* Gilligan	7am
8am						*Saturday Polka Review* Sroka	*Had I Known* Bolger	8am
9am							*Rational Logan* Tonra	9am
10am	*Road Trip Rock* West	*The Andy and Mandy Show* Browne/ Hadden	*Continental Drift* Boyer/ Boyer	*TBA*	*Bengali Beats* Datta		*Split Ends* Davidson/ Wright-Schaner	10am
11am	*Ear Wax* Bratter/ Dimock	*the secret society* DeSanto/ Riley	*Jakubu Live!* Grapel	*Off The Record* McGovern/ Soret	*Maryline by Design* Damour	*Sound and Vision* Megalli	*Syd Streams* Familo	11am
12pm	*Blue Jazz* Rowe	*Mindless Musing* Russo	*Alt Coffee* LaValle	*All Too Well (60 Min Version)* Moulson/Hoban	*Spelling Bee* Karr/ Levine	*Space Peanut Scoot* Olson	*Square One* Cillo/ Pomerantz	12pm
1pm	*My DNA* Gutierrez	*Twist 'n' Shout* Jenkinson	*Apples and Oranges* Lazenby/ Sauve	*Continental Cupid* Mitchell	*The Fall Line* Manion	*Daily Advice* Weremchuk	*Be More Chill* Le	1pm
2pm	*Pop Excellence* Beardslee	*Ritmos Latinos* Romero	*Let it Roll* Lipskar	*What's the 411?* Foster	*Magical Movie Melodies* Chivily	*Matcha Do About Nothing* Doyle/ Novack	*Coke Studio* Gowda/ Latif/ Saied	2pm
3pm	*Art & Artists* Christian/ Ives/ Levy/ Wiseman	*Discover Weekly With Mi* Horvath	*Music for IKEAs* Meshkinyar	*Kombucha* Seward	*Heard on Film* Hollander/ Neely	*Synthopedia* Bit-Babik/ Socolow	*The Slap* Gross/ Michaels	3pm
4pm	*Ely's Bops* Silverman	*The Eva the Diva Show* Diva	*Show Name* Roselli	*Friend Activity* Cannon/ Saied	*Talk a lot* Reith	*One and a Half Blondes* Nelle/ Schneidman	*What Keeps Us Going* Cardoso/ Cheffolway	4pm
5pm	*Wait... you guys have a radio show?* Karron/ Lerner	*Pop (actually) Rocks!* Connolly	*The Kissa Society* Jarman	*DEFCON 1* Underwood	*The Lary Show* Hirai/ Hurner	*Lio* Sanchez	*Good Afternoon Folks* Chu/ Jing/ Zhang	5pm
6pm	*B-ternal Love Hour* Carstarphen	*Spinning Heads* Oliva	*Prime Mix Post Meridian* Tennant	*Monde Francophone* Orio	*Chats with Big Dope* Mezher	*Help Me Make A Playlist* Jane	*Girls' Night* Gross/ Wroblewski	6pm
7pm	*Anywhere But Here* Mead	*True Crime Corner* Parajuli	*Boogie Bops* Smolinski	*Hot Girl Walk* Potter	*The Nightowl Radio Show* Miller	*I Wish I Were Clever* Byrne	*Are You Decent?* Bakal/ Bocklet/ Walcott	7pm
8pm		*Billy and the Jets* Schneck	*From Where I Sit* Rai/ Rodriguez/ Tulga	*Ravinspace* James	*The iSkylark Sho* Steinberg	*Fat Baby Radio* Jablons/ Toomey	*The Dour Hour* Steele/ Wilson	8pm
9pm	*Untitled #1* Seward	*R&R* Regan/ Ruso	*Like David Bowie* Vogt			*Collaboration Station* Gaillard	*Pee Pee Poo Poo* Harpel/ Huleatt/ Jian/ Whelan	9pm
10pm	*Discover Meekly* Fischer/ Guterman	*Mic Wazowski* Koplik/ Villa	*JLOG* O'Shea/ Winer	*Thesis Radio* Hudgings/ Ritzenberg/ Slosberg	*rubi* Campuzano/ Dickinson/ Geronimo	*7.301* Hou/ Jing	*Bowling For Spares* McManus	10pm
11pm	*The third stringers* Knapp/ Kuczek	*The Cringe Hour* Sauve/ Seewald	*MF Zard* Herr/ Stuard	*Thanks For Being Patient* Scott	*TBA*	*TBA*	*Cities of the Plain* Stanco	11pm
12am	*So True Bestie* Marash/ Shultzaberger/ Wutzke	*Mr. Worldwide* Morosky/ Myles/ Shock	*The Late Night Cast* Javier	*Ancient Algorithms* Kretz			*The Forge* O'Reilly	12am
1am	*Real Hours* Charles/ Santos	*Why do they call it shoegaze again?* Martinez	*Code blue* Dougal					1am

Key:								
	(R)= Repeat	Talk/ Sports	Rock	Indie	Punk/ Hardcore	World/ Reggae	Hip-Hop	Metal
	Pop	Polka	Jazz	Eclectic	Blues	Jam Bands	Electronic	Classical

Hidden gem: men's club soccer has provided excitement and excellence throughout the year

by Chris Harrison `23
SPORTS EDITOR

Parents Weekend was a massive one for Hamilton sports. Men's varsity soccer beat Tufts, then the number 10 ranked team nationally, 1-0 on Saturday and followed that performance up with a 1-1 tie with the current number 10 team, Wesleyan, on Sunday. Those performances have men's varsity soccer off to their best start since 2003, with a 6-0-1 record. Football also secured their first win of the year with a 24-10 victory over Amherst on Saturday, while women's soccer tied Wesleyan 1-1. Field hockey also notched a win on Sunday, defeating Wesleyan 4-2, moving them to a 4-3 record while men's golf captured a win at the Oswego State Fall Invitational. Out of all the action, though, one of the most exciting events of the weekend was overlooked. Men's club soccer captured two huge wins on Saturday, against Clarkson and Lemoyne, moving them to first place in their division. The Clarkson game was intense, with Felix Halloran '26 scoring a clutch goal for the Continentals 1-0 win. The Lemoyne game was an offensive clinic that saw Hamilton win in a 5-3 shootout.

Even though club soccer is a Hamilton affiliated team, they do not compete in the NESCAC division but rather with other schools in the upstate New York area. Teams in Hamilton's division are RIT, Clarkson, Lemoyne, Syracuse, Colgate and Oswego. This means that the squad faces clubs from much larger schools that have a massive student body from which to select a team. Even against this tough competition, club soccer has had a stellar season and the boys have provided a multitude of highlight plays and exciting games to keep fans on the edge of their seats. The team is on a thrilling four-game winning streak including a win against the number one team in the division, RIT Black, that was characterized by a 40-yard free kick bomb by Will Rice '24. Now, the team looks ahead to a daunting game against Syracuse this weekend. This game has been described as a "make or break game" for their season as Syracuse is consistently a great team as they pull from a student population of 22,000, over ten times the size of Hamilton's student body. The fact that Hamilton has put together a team to compete for first place is a wildly impressive feat. If Hamilton is able to pull out a win or a tie, it puts them in great position to win the division and advance to regionals. Three years ago, when most of the team leaders were freshmen, the idea of going to regionals was laughable. Now, after a stellar turnaround, regionals is a real possibility for the club soccer squadron.

PHOTO BY MARKOS LISSARRAGUE

Members of the team celebrate after one of their two wins on a sunny Saturday

The impressive run by the Continentals has been led by their three senior captains Elliot Carlson '23, Eric Jamous '23 and Luke Devine '23. Carlson was injured in his first ever practice his freshman year, tearing his mcl and mpfl. While his injury has made him less of a factor on the field, he has exceptional soccer IQ and utilized his expertise to make coaching decisions and run practices. Jamous has been a stalwart of the team since his freshman year and is a consistent presence in the other team's box at both striker and wing. He is known as an offensive wizard, consistently making blazing by other team's defenders. He is also ambidextrous and has phenomenal off ball movement and character. Devine is a consistent goal scorer

PHOTO BY MARKOS LISSARRAGUE

Members of the club soccer team celebrate after their second win in Saturday's double-header

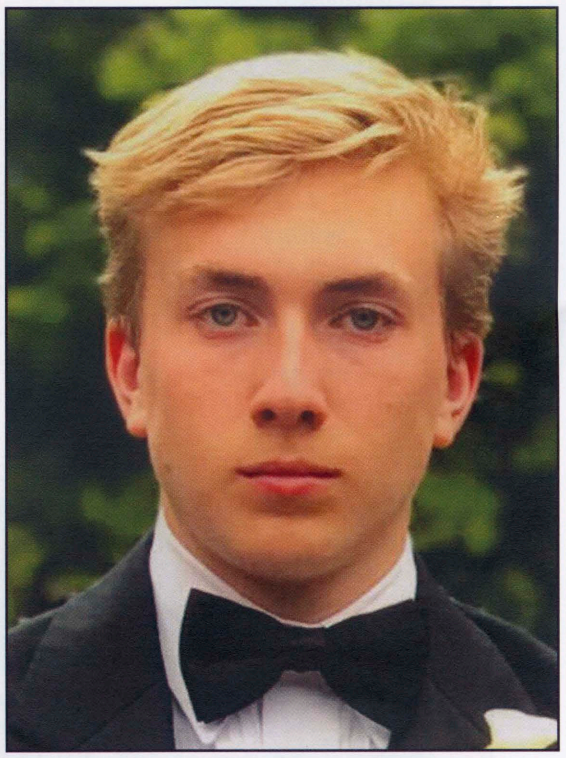


PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE

Elliot Carlson '23 has stepped into a leadership and strategy role after a freshman year injury

and one of the team's top offensive threats. Due to his skill and knack for finding the ball in key moments, Devine is primed to make Syracuse pay for any defensive mistakes and would be a key candidate to score a late winner if the situation presented itself. According to Carlson and Jamous the top scoring and assist leaders on the team are Devine, Jamous, David Sandoz '23 and Quinn Brown '24.

It is also important to note that this team, unlike many others they face, does not have an official coach and is completely organized and run by the senior captains as well as other team leaders. Lineups are decided before the game by the captains, who also run practices. Carlson has stepped into the lead role in handling the rotation and gameplan, making on the fly transitions with the help of other starters on the sideline. These adjustments have helped keep momentum in Hamilton's favor and been important to the team's success. Additional leadership has been provided from other seniors as well as junior and sophomore captains. Bryce Gell '23 has given the team another good presence up top. He has a knack for getting in opponents heads and brings an extra intensity to the field. Junior captain Jesse Wexler '24 is a unit at the back and seems to always find the ball. Sophomore captains Frank Jones '25, Mariano Russo '25 and Spencer Lee '25 have also provided additional leadership and energy on the field.

The Spectator talked with Carlson and Jamous about the season and what an appearance in regionals would mean to the team.

Any unsung heroes of the squad?
Carlson: The unsung hero of the team has to be our defense. They are incredibly solid. Defense is about hard work, and it allows us to be competitive. Defense wins championships and in our case, defense will win us this division. Nothing gets past Frank Jones '25 and if it happens then speedy freshman Felix Halloran '26 will be there to clear it up. We would not be in the position we are in if it weren't for our defense. Good stuff gentlemen.

Jamous: Henry Kuck '24 brings the energy and always has a positive attitude. Jones is a lockdown center back and rock of the backline. Halloran runs all game long and scored the game-winning goal against Clarkson.

What do you need to do to reach regionals?

Carlson: We need to get a solid result against Syracuse this weekend. We cannot lose. There is a chance that we can tie and still win the division but we don't want to rely on the results of others and would rather put matters in our own hands. With a win against Syracuse that would only leave a game against Oswego the following weekend. If we continue to play at the level we are capable of, I am sure we will come away with two stellar results.

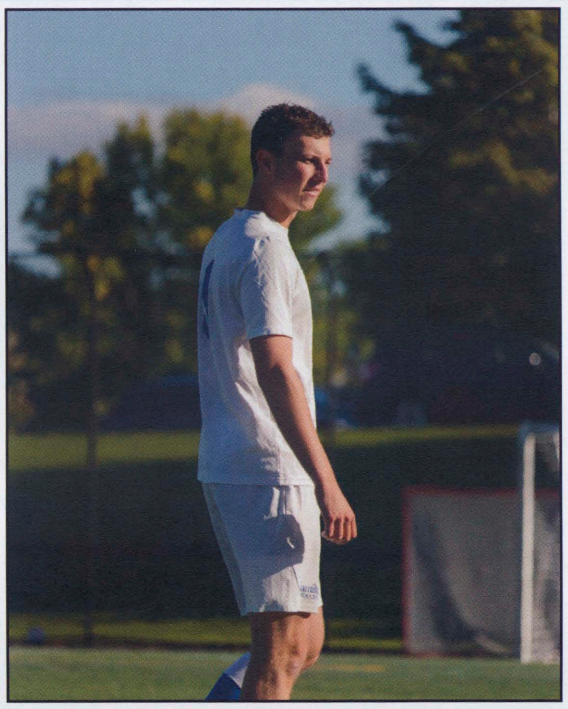


PHOTO BY MARKOS LISSARRAGUE

Bryce Gell '23 provides a consistent presence up top and is a high energy player

Jamous: To reach regionals we need to win the Upstate New York division. Other teams in the league are RIT, Clarkson, Lemoyne, Syracuse, Colgate, and Oswego. We are currently in first place in the division and will be playing Syracuse this weekend, which will probably be the division championship decider.

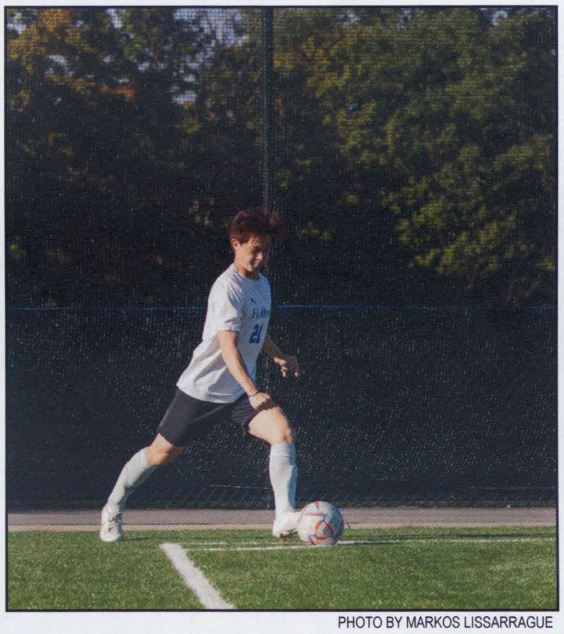


PHOTO BY MARKOS LISSARRAGUE

What would a regionals appearance mean to you and the rest of the team?

Carlson: A regionals appearance would be absolutely incredible for this squad. No one works harder than these gentlemen right here. Not only are they there for each other on the pitch, they are also all friends. They eat meals together. They go to the gym together. They hang out together. This is so much more than a soccer team and they deserve to not only get to regionals but to win it. We are the underdogs but we have more heart than any other team and that will shine through this saturday. At this point if we continue to play at the level I know we can, a regionals appearance isn't a goal, it's an expectation. We can do this.

Jamous: A regionals appearance would be a big deal for the team. Personally, having been abroad all of my junior year, and COVID preventing us from having a team my sophomore year, I have been waiting to get back on the field with the team for a while now. We have already won more games this year than the last two seasons combined and are looking to keep it up. Having a successful season and winning more games than any recent men's club soccer team in history shows the togetherness of the group, with input and performance from all class years.

Being a competitive team pulling out positive results from tough games shows the resilience within the team and our ability to grind out results. Regionals would be the culmination of a fun and successful season where we surprised a lot of the other teams in the division. The team has grown a lot closer over the past month and we're looking to finish the regular season strong that hopefully ends with a regionals appearance.

The captains seems to have high hopes for the team to finish out the season and after watching a couple of the team's games, this writer does too. The team is explosive, dynamic and most importantly, has heart and chemistry. The result at Syracuse remains to be seen but the men's club soccer team appears to be in prime position to have one of their best seasons in recent memory. Now the onus is on them to see how far they can go.

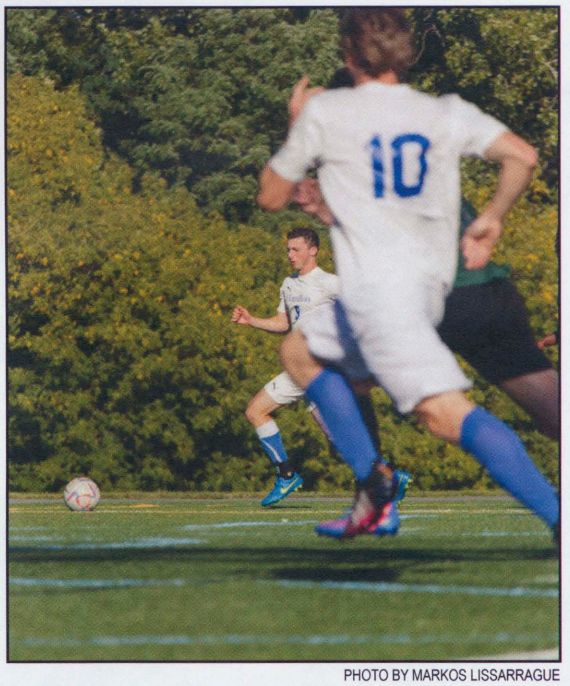


PHOTO BY MARKOS LISSARRAGUE

The "cloccer" Continentals have put constant pressure on opponents all season long.

Opinion: Magnus Carlsen is risking a lot

by Owen Lewis '24
SPORTS EDITOR

There is tension in the world of… chess? I had a hard time believing it myself, but here we are: a sport (the International Olympic Committee recognizes chess as a sport) that usually only gets as tense as "the white piece might take the black piece" is going through some bona fide drama. Magnus Carlsen, chess grandmaster extraordinaire and world number one, has taken to withdrawing from tournaments as of late under the assumption that Hans Neimann, a 19-year-old rival, is cheating. On Sept. 4, Carlsen lost to Neimann in the Sinquefield Cup and promptly withdrew from the tournament. A rematch was slated for Sept. 19, only for Carlsen to withdraw again, this time after playing just one move. He released a Twitter statement on Sept. 26 explaining his actions.

The meat of Carlsen's statement on his most recent withdrawal reads as follows:

"I believe that Niemann has cheated more—and more recently—than he has publicly admitted. His over the board progress has been unusual, and throughout our game in the Sinquefield Cup I had the impression that he wasn't tense or even fully concentrating on the game in critical positions, while outplaying me as black in a way I think only a handful of players can do. This game contributed to changing my perspective."

It is worth pondering the possibility that Carlsen is right. Niemann has publicly admitted to cheating on Chess.com, most recently when he was 16, which caused him to get booted from the site. So there is some precedent, the fact that one can change as much between 16 and 19 as Commons food did for Parents' Weekend notwithstanding. "I don't want to play against people that have cheated repeatedly in the past," Carlsen wrote, "because I don't know what they are capable of doing in the future." If Niemann is cheating, chess has a code red situation. While people once confidently declared a computer could never beat a grandmaster in chess, we have since developed computers that can beat any chess player without fail. Computers have even mastered Go, a game way more complex than chess (a chess board is eight by eight; a Go board is 19 by 19), with the program AlphaGo beating then-world-number-one Go player Ke Jie in three games out of three. If Niemann is indeed employing the services of a computer program, and is avoiding detection, there is no stopping him on the board.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LENNART OOTES, GRAND CHESS TOUR

Hans Neimann (above) has publicly admitted to cheating on Chess.com in the past.

How does one cheat in chess? You would think it would be difficult. There are only so many tricks one can pull while sitting across from another human being at a table. This has not stopped the Internet from wildly speculating, however, with Elon Musk suggesting via Twitter that vibrating anal beads might be the golden ticket.

Now for some necessary context. Per *The Guardian*, Kenneth Regan—considered the foremost expert on cheating in chess—has scanned Niemann's games over the past two years and hasfound no evidence of cheating. Magnus Carlsen is an extraordinary chess player, and I am sure he trusts his chess instincts without reservation. But he is taking an incredible risk by making these accusations on a hunch alone. The mere possibility of being wrong about Neimann cheating seems like it should be more than enough of a deterrent to publicly accusing a fellow player of cheating. What if Neimann just beat him straight-up in the Sinquefield Cup, and it sent Carlsen into a paranoid tailspin? Imagine what the headlines would look like. I think Carlsen's legacy is at risk of suffering a serious stain. His Wikipedia entry currently states that he owns the highest peak rating in chess history, at 2882. He is the reigning five-time World Chess Champion, the three-time World Rapid Chess Champion, the five-time World Blitz Chess Champion. Being wrong about a rival cheating, and stirring up a storm of controversy in the process—not to mention potentially wrecking Niemann's reputation—seem nearly as headline-worthy as his accolades. Maybe Carlsen is right, and if he is, I will happily eat all my words and bow down to his ineffable instincts that allow him to detect cheating as well as conquer the chess world, but right now, I don't see it.

It is practically consensus at this point that people need a specific mindset to be the best in the world at anything. I am a tennis fan, and I sometimes shake my head and laugh when someone barely inside the top 50 confidently declares that they can beat the world number one shortly before having their hide handed to them, but that is the attitude required in the dog-eat-dog world of professional competition. There is no room for questioning oneself, for self-doubt, for anything except the pure confidence of success, because the slightest hint of indecision can prove fatal in a decisive moment. The best at their craft know this more intimately than anyone else.

But that mindset also comes at a cost, which is why we are seeing Aaron Rodgers emerge as a pseudoscientific maniac, Novak Djokovic neglect to get vaccinated for no good reason and a litany of other top athletes floating bizarre medical or political takes with immense amounts of unearned confidence. You can pass it off as mere foolishness, sure, but their mindsets just do not allow them to consider the possibility of being wrong. I think Carlsen is suffering from a similar syndrome. I hope he changes his mind and plays Neimann again, either to give Neimann a chance to confirm that he is cheating if he is guilty or to give him a chance to play if he is innocent; I fear he is incapable of it.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JON GAMBRELL/AP

Chess player Magnus Carlsen (above) has accused rival Hans Neimann of cheating.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PLAYBACK/PIXABAY

Computer programs are at the point of being able to beat any human chess player with ease.